

IN THE CLAIMS

The status of the claims as presently amended is as follows:

1. (*Currently Amended*) A monitoring apparatus for acquiring information by communication from at least one image forming apparatus to be monitored and communicating with a management apparatus, the monitoring apparatus comprising:

an e-mail unit ~~configured to carrying~~ that carries out communication with the management apparatus by e-mail;

a receiving unit ~~configured to receive~~ that receives an update instruction e-mail containing ~~[[the]] second modules for updating first modules, on which the monitoring apparatus operates~~ and an install script thereof;

a processing unit ~~configured to be operable when said e-mail receiving unit has received the update instruction e-mail containing the second modules and the install script for updating first modules, on which the monitoring apparatus operates, from the management apparatus by e-mail, to automatically update the first modules in operation to the second modules corresponding to description of the install script, so that the management apparatus enables the first modules of the monitoring apparatus to update to the second modules with the update instruction e-mail, wherein said processing unit is configured to activates~~ the install script contained in the update instruction e-mail received by said receiving unit, and to update the first modules in operation to the second modules contained in the update instruction e-mail received by said receiving unit;

an information collecting unit ~~configured to that~~ collects version information on the first modules when said e-mail unit has received a version information acquisition request from the management apparatus by e-mail; and

a returning unit ~~configured to that~~ sends the version information collected by said information collecting unit to the management apparatus by return e-mail, so that the management apparatus enables to determine whether or not the first modules in operation is updated.

2. (*Currently Amended*) A monitoring apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

said receiving unit ~~is also configured to receive~~ receives an acquisition request e-mail requesting acquisition of the version information indicative of versions of respective ones of the first modules in the monitoring apparatus and a version of the monitoring apparatus as a whole,

~~wherein said information collecting unit is configured to collect~~ collects the version information in response to the acquisition request e-mail received by said receiving unit, and said returning unit ~~is configured to send~~ sends the version information collected by said information collecting unit to the management apparatus by return e-mail.

3. (*Currently Amended*) A monitoring apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a decoding unit ~~configured to that~~ decodes contents of an e-mail received by said e-mail unit, ~~and~~

wherein said processing unit ~~is configured to interpret~~ interprets an instruction from the management apparatus from the contents of the received e-mail decoded by said decoding unit, ~~and to perform~~ performs processing according to the interpreted contents of the e-mail.

4-8. (*Canceled*)

9. (*Currently Amended*) A control method executed by a monitoring apparatus that acquires information by communication from at least one image forming apparatus to be monitored, and communicates with a management apparatus, the method comprising:

a communication step of carrying out communication with the management apparatus by e-mail;

a receiving step of receiving an update instruction e-mail containing ~~[[the]]~~ second modules for updating first modules, on which the monitoring apparatus operates, and an install script thereof;

a processing step of automatically updating the first modules, ~~on which the monitoring apparatus operates,~~ in operation to the second modules corresponding to description of the install script, so that the management apparatus enables the first modules of the monitoring apparatus to update to the second modules with the update instruction e-mail for updating the first modules when the update instruction e-mail containing the second modules and the install script is received from the management apparatus by e-mail in said communication in said receiving step, wherein said processing step activates the install script contained in the update

instruction e-mail received in said receiving step, and to update the first modules in operation to the second modules contained in the update instruction e-mail received in said receiving step;

an information collecting step of collecting version information on the first modules when a version information acquisition request is received from the management apparatus by e-mail in said communication step; and

a returning step of sending the version information collected in said information collecting step to the management apparatus by return mail, so that the management apparatus enables to determine whether or not the first modules in operation is updated.

10. (*Currently Amended*) A control method according to claim 9, wherein:

said receiving step also receives an acquisition request e-mail requesting acquisition of the version information indicative of versions of respective ones of the modules in the monitoring apparatus and a version of the monitoring apparatus as a whole,

~~wherein~~ said information collecting step comprises collecting the version information in response to the acquisition request e-mail received in said receiving step, and said returning step comprises sending the version information collected in said information collecting step to the management apparatus by return e-mail.

11. (*Currently Amended*) A control method according to claim 9, further comprising:

a decoding step of decoding contents of an e-mail received in said communication step, and

wherein said processing step comprises interpreting an instruction from the management apparatus from the contents of the received e-mail decoded in said decoding step, and performing processing according to the interpreted contents of the e-mail.

12-16. (*Canceled*)

17. (*Currently Amended*) A non-transitory computer-readable medium storing a computer program for executing a control method implemented by a monitoring apparatus that acquires information by communication from at least one image forming apparatus to be monitored, and communicates with a management apparatus, the method comprising:

a communication step of carrying out communication with the management apparatus by e-mail;

a receiving step of receiving an update instruction e-mail containing ~~[[the]]~~ second modules for updating first modules, on which the monitoring apparatus operates and an install script thereof;

a processing step of automatically updating the first modules, on which the monitoring apparatus operates, in operation to the second modules corresponding to description of the install script, so that the management apparatus enables the first modules of the monitoring apparatus to update to the second modules with the update instruction e-mail for updating the first modules when the update instruction e-mail containing the second modules and the install script is received ~~from the management apparatus by e-mail~~ in said communication receiving step, wherein said processing step activates the install script contained in the update instruction e-mail received in said receiving step, and to update the first modules in operation to the second modules contained in the update instruction e-mail received in said receiving step;

an information collecting step of collecting version information on the first modules when a version information acquisition request is received from the management apparatus by e-mail in said communication step; and

a returning step of sending the version information collected in said information collecting step to the management apparatus by return mail, so that the management apparatus enables to determine whether or not the first modules in operation is updated.

18. (*Canceled*)

19. (*Currently Amended*) A monitoring apparatus for acquiring information by communication from at least one image forming apparatus to be monitored and communicating with a management apparatus, the monitoring apparatus comprising:

an e-mail unit ~~configured to carry~~ that carries out communication with the management apparatus by email;

a receiving unit that receives an update instruction e-mail containing second modules for updating first modules, on which the monitoring apparatus operates, and an install script thereof;

~~a processing unit configured to be operable when said e-mail receiving unit has received an update instruction e-mail containing the second modules for updating first modules, on which the monitoring apparatus operates, and [[an]] the install script from the management apparatus,~~ to automatically update the first modules in operation to the second modules corresponding to description of the install script, so that the management apparatus enables the first modules of the monitoring apparatus to update to the second modules with the update instruction e-mail;

~~an information collecting unit configured to~~ that collects version information on the first modules when said e-mail unit has received an acquisition request e-mail that requests acquisition of the version information on the first modules from the management apparatus by e-mail; and

~~a returning unit configured to~~ that sends the version information collected by said information collecting unit to the management apparatus by return e-mail, so that the management apparatus enables to determine whether or not the first modules in operation is updated.

wherein the install script includes at least one or more commands which are executable in an operating system including said processing unit in the monitoring apparatus.

20. (*Previously Presented*) A monitoring apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the acquisition request e-mail requests acquisition of the version information indicative of versions of respective ones of the first modules in the monitoring apparatus and a version of the monitoring apparatus as a whole.

21. (*Currently Amended*) A control method executed by a monitoring apparatus that acquires information by communication from at least one image forming apparatus to be monitored, and communicates with a management apparatus, the method comprising:

a communication step of carrying out communication with the management apparatus by email;

a receiving step of receiving an update instruction e-mail containing second modules for updating first modules, on which the monitoring apparatus operates, and an install script thereof;

~~a processing step of automatically updating the first modules, on which the monitoring apparatus operates, in operation to the second modules corresponding to description of [[an]] the install script, so that the management apparatus enables the first modules of the monitoring apparatus to update to the second modules with the update instruction e-mail, when [[an]] the update instruction e-mail containing the second modules for updating first modules and the install script is received from the management apparatus in said communication~~ receiving step;

an information collecting step of collecting version information on the first modules when an acquisition request e-mail that requests acquisition of the version information on the first modules is received from the management apparatus by e-mail in said communication step; and

a returning step of sending the version information collected in said information collecting step to the management apparatus by return e-mail, so that the management apparatus enables to determine whether or not the first modules in operation is updated,

wherein the install script includes at least one or more commands which are executable in an operating system including said processing step in the monitoring apparatus.

22. (*Previously Presented*) A control method according to claim 21, wherein the acquisition request e-mail requests acquisition of the version information indicative of versions of respective ones of the first modules in the monitoring apparatus and a version of the monitoring apparatus as a whole.

23. (*Currently Amended*) A monitoring apparatus for acquiring information by communication from at least one image forming apparatus to be monitored and communicating with a management apparatus, the monitoring apparatus comprising:

an e-mail unit ~~configured to carrying~~ that carries out communication with the management apparatus by e-mail; and

a receiving unit that receives an update instruction e-mail containing second modules for updating first modules, on which the monitoring apparatus operates, and an install script thereof;

~~a processing unit configured to be operable when said e-mail receiving unit has received an update instruction e-mail containing the second modules for updating first modules, on which the monitoring apparatus operates, and [[an]] the install script from the management apparatus, to automatically update the first modules in operation to the second modules corresponding to description of the install script, so that the management apparatus enables the first modules of the monitoring apparatus to update to the second modules with the update instruction e-mail,~~ wherein said processing unit starts the updating at either one of first timing when said first modules does not start in accordance with the description of the install script, second timing when said first modules are caused to stop, third timing when said first module finishes executing, or fourth timing when said monitoring apparatus has just restarted;

an information collecting unit that collects version information on the first modules when said e-mail unit has received a version information acquisition request from the management apparatus by e-mail; and

a returning unit that sends the version information collected by said information collecting unit to the management apparatus by return e-mail, so that the management apparatus enables to determine with the return e-mail whether or not the first modules in operation is updated.

24. (*Currently Amended*) A control method executed by a monitoring apparatus that acquires information by communication from at least one image forming apparatus to be monitored, and communicates with a management apparatus, the method comprising:

an e-mail step of carrying out communication with the management apparatus by e-mail;
and

a receiving step of receiving an update instruction e-mail containing second modules for updating first modules, on which the monitoring apparatus operates, and an install script thereof;

a processing step of automatically updating the first modules, on which the monitoring apparatus operates, in operation to the second modules corresponding to description of an install script, so that the management apparatus enables the first modules of the monitoring apparatus to update to the second modules with the update instruction e-mail, when said e-mail receiving step has received an update instruction e-mail containing the second modules for updating the first modules and the install script from the management apparatus in said receiving step, wherein said processing step starts the updating at either one of first timing when said first modules does not start in accordance with the description of the install script, second timing when said first modules are caused to stop, third timing when said first module finishes executing, or fourth timing when said monitoring apparatus has just restarted;

an information collecting step of collecting version information on the first modules when said e-mail step has received a version information acquisition request from the management apparatus by e-mail; and

a returning step of sending the version information collected by said information collecting unit to the management apparatus by return e-mail, so that the management apparatus enables to determine with the return e-mail whether or not the first modules in operation is updated,